

**Status Report**  
**Spring HOR Barrier status**  
**12/9/99**

**Two issues associated with the barrier installation:**

1. Access to the construction site
2. Physical limitations of the barrier

**1. Site access**

Gaining the landowner's permission to access the site is dependent upon SDWA, NMFS, FWS, and DFG agreeing to the operational rules for the barrier's culverts. These rules have been developed, but not tested, for the fall barrier. This set of rules will be evaluated by the parties early next year to determine if any modifications are needed.

Pursuing eminent domain by DWR is not feasible for this spring. The San Joaquin River Group Authority is considering whether they wish to pursue it. DWR will be meeting with them on Monday, December 13 to discuss this further.

**2. Physical limitations of the barrier**

(A more detailed discussion is attached.)

**Current barrier limitations:**

- Installation requires about 6 days with a San Joaquin River flow of 5000 cfs or less.
- Maximum allowable flow is estimated at 7500 cfs
- Removal requires 5-6 days with the San Joaquin River flow of 5000 cfs or less.

**Actions being taken to reduce barrier limitations:**

- Design modification for the culverts which places them near the south side of the channel in a semi-permanent arrangement. Installation and removal is estimated at 3 days each, assuming culverts can be installed prior to April.
- Maximum allowable flow being re-evaluated. A higher allowable flow will assist in the VAMP operation by alleviating one concern regarding flow variability.

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**Milestones:**

- Complete re-design of barrier. (Estimated date: 12/30/99)
- Submit revised 404 permit application to Corps
- Get approval from NMFS,USFWS under ESA
- Corps issues a revised 404 permit for redesigned barrier
- Obtain a revised 1601 agreement from DFG
- USFWS,NMFS and DFG approve operations plan for culverts
- Obtain access permits from RD 544 and 2062 for barrier installation and operation. This includes addressing seepage and removal issues to SDWA satisfaction.
- Coordinate barrier installation and removal with San Joaquin River Group Authority representatives for 2000 VAMP